MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 NOVEMBER 1982

Israel

Inquiry Commission -- After examining the evidence, the commission of inquiry into the Sabra and Shatila events warned the prime minister and eight other high-ranking civilian and military officials that they could be "harmed" by the inquiry or its results, THE JERUSALEM POST reported. The commission's communique, published by THE JERUSALEM POST, said that the nine men would be informed of the evidence that could harm them and would be allowed to reply to the relevant passages.

Sources "very close" to Prime Minister Menahem Begin said that Begin will ask for new elections if the commission's final report places even the slightest blame or criticism on him, THE JERUSALEM POST reported. The sources added that Begin is confident of being reelected. A MA'ARIV editorial cited by Jerusalem radio stated that the commission's conclusions may cause a "strong political tremor." While emphasizing that the commission's conclusions are not a court verdict, the Tel Aviv daily YEDI'OT AHARONOT asserted that if some people are found responsible for the events in the refugee camps, they will be from among the nine men.

No-confidence Motion -- The Knesset rejected the Alignment's motion of no-confidence in the government by a vote of 59 to 50 on 24 November, Jerusalem radio reported.

Lebanon

Negotiating Committee -- Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan announced the composition of the committee that will represent Lebanon in negotiations with Israel, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio reported. Brig Gen 'Abbas Hamcan will chair the committee, Ambassador Antoine Fattal will be the political and legal adviser, Beirut radio reported. The Tel Aviv daily HA'ARETZ pointed out on 24 November that Lebanon's insistence on appointing a military figure to head the delegation was a "major stumbling block" in starting the negotiations. The negotiations will be held alternately in Khaldah, south of Beirut, and in Kibbutz Ma'ale Hahamisha, near Jerusalem, both HA'ARETZ and Jerusalem radio reported.

Habib Negotiations -- U.S. envoy Habib met in Jerusalem on 25 November with Prime Minister Begin and other government officials, Jerusalem radio reported. The prime minister's press spokesman told IDF radio that the group discussed proposals for negotiations with Lebanon and that the proposals will be discussed at the 28 November Cabinet meeting. During a meeting with the U.S. envoy earlier in the day, the Israeli defense minister insisted that a "mandatory" condition for any arrangement with Lebanon is releasing the captured soldiers and providing information on those missing in action, Jerusalem radio reported.

Egypt

Mitterrand Visit -- French President Francois Mitterrand arrived in Cairo on 24 November on an official visit, MENA reported. Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and his French counterpart held private talks on 24 November at the Presidential Palace and met again on 24 November for private talks followed by discussions that included the two countries' foreign ministers' according to MENA reports. The French

president's spokesman described the two leaders' talks as "extremely friendly," and added that they discussed Africa and the Middle East, particularly Lebanon.

'Ali Talks -- Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's envoy in Cairo on 25 November to discuss Egyptian-Palestinian relations, MENA reported. According to Radio Monte Carlo, the Egyptian foreign minister briefed the "senior" Palestinian official on the Egyptian-French plan as well as on the two presidents' views on the need to immediately move toward peace.

PLO

The PLO Central Council met throughout the night in Damascus on 25 November, Radio Monte Carlo revealed. According to AFP, the leaders of all PLO groups will meet again on 26 November in an attempt to iron out differences.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Activities -- Fighting on the southwestern fronts on 23 November was the "severest" in 26 months, IRNA claimed. More than 600 Iraqis were killed or wounded and 3 Iraqi brigades were partially destroyed, the report added. Fighting continued on various fronts on 24 November and the Iraqi oil installation at Banmil was set on fire, a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio reported. Iranian forces defended their positions "deep inside Iraq" east of Basra and halted Iraqi traffic on the Al-Faw-Basra road, according to IRNA. A military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio asserted that 3,500 Iranians were killed during a "fierce battle" on 25 November.

Khark Incident -- The commander of the Iranian Navy said that "no foreign oil tanker has been hit in the Khark or Bushehr regions," according to Tehran radio.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Interview -- Following a Supreme Defense Council meeting in Tehran on 24 November, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in an interview with Tehran radio that Iran controls almost all of the territory from the Persian Gulf to the common border in northern Iraq. The speaker revealed that the council approved the funding and formation of a "large number" of volunteer battalions to be composed of veterans and those with military training. Following a 6-month training course, the battalions will be used as independent units at the fronts, and will greatly increase the manpower at the disposal of the armed forces, the speaker added. In addition, the council assigned the guards corps with the task of establishing training bases and providing "lawful facilities for the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, according to the speaker. The speaker stated that the council emphasized that the guards should not interfere in the Iraqi group's affairs.

Iraqi Opposition

A spokesman for the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq said that his group is not a government-in-exile or a coalition of different political groups; it is comprised of Muslims who follow the same policy, IRNA reported citing an ETTELA'AT interview. However, the spokesman claimed that the group is willing to cooperate with "all forces" to overthrow the Iraqi regime. Only armed struggle will help the group achieve its aims, the spokesman added.

FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 228 26 November 1982

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Two Bombs Explode in Kabul 24 November C 1
Karmal Receives Telegram From Tsedenbal C 1
Defector Comments on Police Desertion [Karachi] C 1

BANGLADESH

AFP: Ershad Expected To Seek Arms in PRC D 1
Scientific, Technical Protocol Signed With PRC D 2
PRC Vice Minister's Remarks D 2
25 November Departure D 2
General Ershad Details Election Timetable D 2

INDIA

Gandhi Comments on USSR's Afghan Policy [AFP] E 1
50 More Akalis Arrested in New Delhi 24 Nov E 1

PAKISTAN

Zia Discusses Regional, Domestic Issues F 1
THE MUSLIM Comments on Zia-Andropov Meeting [17 Nov] F 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

SRI LANKA

AFP: Tamil Militants Suspected in Shooting G 1
Jayewardene Denies Supreme Court Downgraded G 1
Briefs: Protocol With GDR G 1

IRAN

Supreme Defense Council Meets 24 November I 1
Hashemi-Rafsanjani Interview I 1
Khamene'i on Behavior of Iranians in Lebanon I 4
Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques I 4
No 1,132 I 4
No 1,133 I 5
600 Iraqis Reported Killed in 23 Nov Clash I 5
IRNA Reports on Recent Battlefront Successes I 6
24 November Activity I 6
Velayati Stresses Ties With Third World I 7
Oil Officials, Indian Delegation Hold Talks I 7
Agreement on Crude Renewed I 7

Hungarian Finance Minister Arrives 20 November I 8
Meeting With Counterpart I 8
Agriculture Cooperation I 8
Meetings With Officials I 9
23 November Talks I 9
24 November Departure I 10
Khomeyni Urges Kurdish-Persian Unity Under Islam I 10
Khamene'i Praises Role of Friday Imams I 11
NVOI Warns Against 'Creators of Malcontent' I 11
Purging of 'Counterrevolutionaries' Noted I 12
Radio Iran Cites Arrests, Executions of Baha'is I 12

TWO BOMBS EXPLODE IN KABUL 24 NOVEMBER

LD251656 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Servants of imperialism and reaction who have not abstained from crime, killing innocent people, destroying public utility establishments or plundering people's properties have again embarked on crime in Kabul city, inflicting suffering on dozens of families.

Criminal counterrevolutionaries, these enemies of the people of Afghanistan, last night at approximately 2100, exploded two bombs at the pension department building near [name indistinct] resulting in over 44 private shops being destroyed. Damage incurred totals millions of Afghanis.

According to a BAKHTAR correspondent's report quoting Kabul security authorities, 27 people were injured. By 1000 today, four of the injured had died.

According to reports, losses from the innocent have yet to be estimated. Shopkeepers who have lost millions of Afghanis-worth of goods this morning were engaged in collecting what remained of their goods.

KARMAL RECEIVES TELEGRAM FROM TSEDENBAL

LD250734 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0432 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Text] Kabul, Nov. 24, BAKHTAR -- A telegram of thanks has been received here from Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and president of Presidium of Great Hural of the People's Republic of Mongolia, addressed to Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

Babrak Karmal had earlier sent a congratulatory telegram to Yumjaagiyn Tsendenbal on his 66th anniversary birthday. [as received]

Expressing pleasure for the expansion of close relations between the two parties and states the message notes that these relations will grow and develop in the interest of peace, national independence and social progress in Asia and the world.

DEFECTOR COMMENTS ON POLICE DESERTION

BK201255 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 20 Nov 82

[Text] In Afghanistan, the Karmal regime has reduced the duration of police training course from 3 years to only 3 months in order to pass out policemen in larger numbers in a bid to make up the depletion in the police force because of continued desertion.

This has been stated by Brig (Mohammad Aiyub Nangal), who was an instructor at the Kabul Police Academy before taking shelter in Pakistan. He defected after performing haj as deputy leader of an official Afghan haj delegation. He said the police personnel are always on the lookout for an opportunity to join hands with the mujahidin in the struggle for freedom. The Kabul regime, he said, has turned Afghanistan into a police state. Brig (Aiyub Nangal) said the police academy in Kabul is run under the supervision of 12 Soviet advisers.

AFP: ERSHAD EXPECTED TO SEEK ARMS IN PRC

BK250816 Hong Kong AFP in English 0734 GMT 25 Nov 82

[By Golam Tahaboor]

[Excerpt] Dhaka, Nov. 25 (AFP) -- Bangladesh Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lt. Gen. Hussain Mohammad Ershad leaves for Beijing tomorrow on a week-long official visit which officials said here would reaffirm and renew Dhaka's already close friendship with China.

The general is expected to seek modern Chinese arms for his country's defense arsenal. China became Bangladesh's chief arms supplier in 1975.

The coming visit would be first highest level contact with Beijing by the new military regime in Dhaka since the 52-year-old general since he came to power last March. [as received]

General Ershad is thought to have signed an agreement with Beijing for the supplies of heavy arms to Bangladesh in 1979 when he headed a military delegation to that country.

As active members of the non-aligned, Bangladesh and China have closely similar views on many international issues, officials here said.

The eight member party to Beijing includes Foreign Minister Shamsud Doha.

Officials here said General Ershad would discuss with Chinese leaders the situation in West Asia (Middle EAst), Kampuchea, Afghanistan and also South Asia.

Talks in Beijing are expected to cover the gamut of their "excellent" bilateral relations as well as regional and world issues, including Cambodia and the prospect of a Sino-Soviet thaw officials here said.

As active members of the Non-aligned Movement, Bangladesh and China have a close affinity of views on many international issues and problems.

Premier Zhao Ziyang paid a brief visit to Dhaka in June 1981.

Informed sources here said at least 10 Chinese delegations have visited Bangladesh during the last year, including one high level military delegation.

Currently, Chinese Vice-Minister for Forestry Dong Zhiyong is in Dhaka and the Chinese agriculture minister is scheduled to arrive here on November 26 for an official visit.

In an interview published today, Foreign Minister Shamsud Doha said, "We want closer ties with China still."

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH PRC

BK241111 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] Bangladesh and China have concluded the annual protocol for 1982 on scientific and technical cooperation between them. Visiting Chinese Vice Minister for Forestry Dong Zhiyong and Secretary at the External Resources Division Matibur Rahman signed the protocol in Dhaka today. Under the protocol, study visits will take place between the two countries next year. In addition, China will supply jute seeds and high-yielding [word indistinct] rice, while Bangladesh will supply white fiber jute seeds and fry of katla fish.

PRC Vice Minister's Remarks

BK241043 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] Visiting Chinese Vice Minister for Forestry Dong Zhiyong has described the forthcoming visit of Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lt Gen Ershad to China as an epoch-making event. Talking to newsmen after signing the annual protocol for the current year on scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries in Dhaka, the vice minister said the CMLA's visit will be seen as a big support to China's efforts to construct the country and its struggle for modernization. It will further strengthen the already existing friendly relations between the two countries.

Dong, who arrived in Dhaka on Wednesday last at the head of a five-member delegation for signing the protocol, visited Sylhet, Khulna and a number of research institutes. They are expected to leave for home tomorrow.

25 November Departure

BK260944 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 0100 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Dong Zhiyong, Chinese vice minister for forestry, left Dhaka yesterday for home after a week's visit to Bangladesh. During his visit to Dhaka, Dong, who was the leader of a five-member delegation, signed the annual protocol for scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries. The delegation also visited Sylhet and Khulna and saw a number of research institutions.

GENERAL ERSHAD DETAILS ELECTIONS TIMETABLE

BK241116 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lt Gen H.M. Ershad has said institutions have to be built under which a democratic system can function without any chance of being destroyed. He was inaugurating a 2-day conference of the divisional commissioners, deputy commissioners, district judges and superintendents of police and Dhaka today.

The CMLA said preparations of the voters list will start from January next and the elections to the thana [police station] and union parishads [councils] will take place toward the end of next year. This will be followed by elections to the zila [district] parishads and finally, at the national level.

General Ershad said the present government had to take the responsibility of running the country because there was no alternative to rescue the nation from ruination. We do not want to perpetuate martial law. What we want is to do good to the people who have so far seen only poverty and exploitation, he emphatically added.

GANDHI COMMENTS ON USSR'S AFGHAN POLICY

NC250915 Paris AFP in English 0904 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Text] Paris, Nov 25 (AFP) -- Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said in an interview published here today that she did not think the Soviet Union wanted to remain in Afghanistan, and described foreign aid to Afghan rebels as "substantial".

The Socialist daily newspaper LE MATIN de Paris, on the eve of President Francois Mitterrand's visit to India, asked what her impression was of Moscow's policy towards Afghanistan after talks last week with Yuriy Andropov, who succeeded Leonid Brezhnev as secretary-general of the Communist Party.

Mrs Gandhi replied that she saw no change there. Noting that India was for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan and the halting of all other influences, she said there was no doubt that the rebels were receiving foreign aid.

Asked whether this could be described as "limited aid", she said she considered it substantial, putting the Afghan Government in a difficult position. The prime minister said that she did not think the Afghan regime would allow the Soviets to leave until it could prove that it was capable of beating off rebel attacks.

The prime minister said that the new aspect of the Afghan problem was that Afghanistan and Pakistan were talking to each other.

She added that she did not think the Soviets wanted to remain in Afghanistan, and that if they were still there it was because they felt that a week Afghanistan would harm Soviet national interests.

Mrs Gandhi said that the Soviets had been looking for a way out "for a long time."

Asked about her impressions of her meeting with Mr Andropov, Mrs Gandhi said she had the feeling that the Kremlin was being less rigid than formerly with some foreign countries with which relations had not been too good, though she did not feel this depended only on the new party secretary.

50 MORE AKALIS ARRESTED IN NEW DELHI 24 NOV

BK241600 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] Punjab Chief Minister Darbara Singh has said that some Akali Dal leaders and the agitators have been arrested in the last few days to prevent them from creating a scene in Delhi during the ASIAD. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today, he said that the arrested people are not going to remain in jail for long.

In reply to a question, he said that he is in favor of an early settlement of the Akali demands.

Nearly 50 Akali demonstrators were arrested in New Delhi today for defying prohibitory orders.

ZIA DISCUSSES REGIONAL, DOMESTIC ISSUES

BK241142 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq said we have consistently believed in the peaceful settlement of interstate problems and our approach has always been that of peace with all and, more especially, with our neighbors.

In an interview with THE DEFENSE JOURNAL of Karachi, the president referred to the geopolitical situation in the region. In this context, he mentioned the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq conflict and the recent blatant aggression committed by Israel and Lebanon.

The president said our approach to the Afghanistan problem has been that a political solution based on recognized principles of international law is the only answer. We do not believe that a military solution is possible. The same approach, he added, was the right one to create a climate of confidence in our relations with our eastern neighbor, India. That is why we took the initiative to banish the spector of war from the horizon. We will continue our sincere efforts from both fronts to promote peace and stability.

The president said he was encouraged by the fact that Pakistan today stood out as a haven of stability, despite the convulsions in the region of west Asia, which adjoins us. He said we must blend our efforts not only toward preserving our stability, but also restoring and promoting stability of the entire region.

Replying to a question about domestic affairs, the president pointed out that during the past 5 years policies have been made by institutions set up by the present government including the council. These organizations have played their due role in preparing development programs. Answering another question, the president said the government has maintained a continuous rapport with the people at all levels. Moreover, the federal council has played an important role in maintaining a close rapport with the government and the people. Hence, the policies and the initiatives of the government on national and international issues are framed in the light of the people's aspirations. In addition, the local government system has played an important part in maintaining continuous dialogue between the people and the government. All these measures have brought about a good deal of political stability in the country. It was because of this stability, the president added, that investment in the private sector was coming forth, which was encouraging.

He said he would like to see greater participation by the private sector. The president referred to the accelerated pace of economic development in various fields and also measures taken for the Islamization of the different sectors of the country's economy. These achievements, he said, reflected the participation of the entire nation.

About the political process, the president said we are consciously and progressively preparing for the restoration of democracy in the country which will conform to the Islamic principles. The president said as far as the restoration of the normal political process is concerned, we are committed to the restoration of civil rule. We are moving in that direction step by step. He said he had already promised to indicate the future political system by the next independence day. He hoped to move quickly thereafter to implement it. To restore civil rule, he said, there is a need to create objective conditions to facilitate this transition. He said his government was trying hard toward this end. The president said another condition was the prevalence for peaceful conditions within the country. He said his government had been able to restore the confidence of the people. He was not unaware of the existence of certain elements who were out to create chaotic conditions in the country for their own vested interests. They do not want elections to be held in the country. The president said we shall frustrate their efforts and restore civil rule, insha Allah [God willing].

THE MUSLIM COMMENTS ON ZIA-ANDROPOV MEETING

GF231134 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 17 Nov 82 p 4

[Editorial: "President Ziaul Haq's Moscow Journey"]

[Text] The talks between President Ziaul Haq and Mr Yuriy Andropov, the new general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, held in Moscow on Monday are the first at the level of head of state since the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. According to earlier news reports it had been indicated that the Soviet president would, in all probability, be unable to meet world leaders, other than those from the East European countries, who have assembled in the Soviet capital to attend the funeral of former President Leonid Brezhnev.

The Pakistan and Soviet presidents are reported to have had an exchange of views on the situation in Afghanistan. It is hoped that this initial exchange, although brief, will in some measure provide a fresh opportunity for both sides to tackle the long-outstanding problem. For some time now there have been strains in the relationship between Pakistan and the Soviet Union because of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. Although it is felt that there are unlikely to be major shifts in Soviet foreign policy on major international issues, there is, however, reason to believe that Mr. Andropov might be prepared to take a fresh look at some of the questions including the possibility of Sino-Soviet rapprochement and the wisdom of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. A positive indicator of getting out of the old grooves is the visit to Moscow of the Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua to attend Mr. Brezhnev's funeral. It is the first time in 18 years that such a high-ranking Chinese delegation has visited the Soviet capital. According to reports Mr Andropov has also had a meeting with Mr. Huang.

The initiative taken by the president of Pakistan to attend the funeral of President Brezhnev was a positive one; and it is hoped that the exchange of views with the new Soviet leader will lead to a better understanding of each other's positions and will facilitate the progress of the Geneva peace talks. It is in the best interests of both countries as well as the entire region to reach an early, peaceful and negotiated settlement of the Afghanistan problem is consonance with the wishes of its people.

President Ziaul Haq has reiterated on several occasions that Afghanistan is the only point of conflict in Pakistan-Soviet relations. In any case, Pakistan's stand on this issue has been consistent as well as principled one. The relations between two countries have had a chequered past and for a number of reasons these countries have not been able to forge a cooperative relationship befitting neighbours. As President Ziaul Haq's gesture clearly indicates that despite our political intimacy with China and our 3.2 billion package deal with the United States, Pakistan is rightly determined to pursue a policy of equi-distance from both super-powers and an unambiguous commitment to the principles of genuine non-alignment. Now that contact has been established between the two countries at the highest level, this should serve as a great impetus to better understanding each other's perceptions of the region and should help in contributing to a political settlement on Afghanistan. Such a move is in the interest of peace in the region and well-being of the two countries, who are practically neighbours now.

SRI LANKA

AFP: TAMIL MILITANTS SUSPECTED IN SHOOTING

BK250656 Hong Kong AFP in English 0638 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Text] Colombo, Nov. 25 (AFP) -- Separtist Tamil militants are thought to be responsible for today's shooting of the municipal commissioner of Jaffna, C.V.K. Sivagnanam, reports reaching here said.

The commissioner was bathing at a well in front of his residence when four armed youths on bicycles shot him with a revolver seriously wounding him. The reports said Mr. Sivagnanam underwent an emergency operation at the Jaffna hospital. He is a Tamil by race and the motive for the shooting is not known. The technique adopted by the assailants suggested they belonged to a militant section of the separatist movement, the reports added.

Meanwhile in Jaffna, a student boycott is being organised for November 29 to protest against the detention of a university lecturer and his wife and two Catholic priests for alleged involvement with the separatist movement, the island newspaper reported today.

JAYEWARDENE DENIES SUPREME COURT DOWNGRADED

BK191352 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 19 Nov 82

[Text] Sri Lanka's chief justice, Neville Samarakoon, has written to President Jayewardene complaining that the post of chief justice has been devalued and that the powers of Supreme Court judges have been eroded gradually by executive orders.

In his reply, President Jayewardene has emphasized that, on the contrary, the position of chief Justice, far from being devalued, has been revalued constitution-wide, money-wise, status-wise, independence-wise and in many other ways.

President Jayewardene stressed in his rejoinder that for the first time in the history of Sri Lanka the two highest courts -- the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal -- have been entrenched in the Constitution. He could not, therefore, understand the chief justice's reference to devaluing, erosion, executive action and insult. He had always treated all members of the judiciary with greatest respect and had never attempted to interfere with their independence.

The president could not accept Samarakoon's interpretation of the Constitution as consisting of three main divisons. He said that the president and parliament elected by the people are supreme subject to the sovereignty of the people expressed through a referendum.

BRIEFS

PROTOCOL WITH GDR -- A protocol providing for the cultural and scientific exchanges between Sri Lanka and GDR for 1982-83 was signed on 16 November at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Colombo. This comes under the cultural agreement signed in 1971 by the two countries. The protocol was signed by Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Tyronne Fernando and GDR Ambassador Dieter Philipp on behalf of the two governments. [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 17 Nov 82 BK]

SUPREME DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETS 24 NOVEMBER

LD242142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] The Supreme Defense Council held a session tonight. It was chaired by Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the republic and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council.

Participating in this session were: Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council; Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi; Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Colonel Salimi, minister of defense; Mohsen Reza'i, commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni; Velayati, minister of foreign affairs; Colonel Sayyad-Shirazi, commander of the ground forces; Captain Afzali, commander of the navy; other navy officers; Shamkhani, deputy commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; and Kharrazi, supervisor of the war propaganda headquarters.

The meeting studied latest developments on the battlefronts and discussions were held on future war plans, the results of the Moharram operations, the condition of the enemy forces, the formation of the Qods reserve battalions by the army, the role of the Hamzeh Headquarters in routing counterrevolution and the extent of the resources the Islamic Republic of Iran will put at the disposal of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq. Some decisions were made on the matters.

At the end of this session, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, gave an interview to our correspondent and answered his questions. Details of this interview will be broadcast in later news bulletins.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Interview

LD251102 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Khomeyni's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, by unidentified correspondent, following the 24 November Supreme Defense Council session in Tehran -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] How do you evaluate the Moharram operations of the fighters of Islam?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. This was one of the topics at our discussions. Both the ground forces and the Guards Corps and the chief of the Joint Staff presented a comprehensive report and we discussed it. The report was very encouraging. Certain results have been achieved, but it is still early for us to announce them. Due to military considerations, it is not appropriate to announce them. Those things thought to be effective in other operations also have been effective in these operations. The enemy has realized this and during the past few days it has engaged in some futile operations. Nearly every day, or every 2 days, there have been some counteroffensives. However, the enemy has sustained great material and personnel losses every time it engages in a counteroffensive. The positions our forces have occupied are very good. They can be defended very easily. The council was very pleased with the results of the operations.

[Question] If possible, please describe some of the other issues discussed in this session.

[Answer] Many issues were discussed. We had two (?new) issues. One was the formation of the Jerusalem reserve battalions proposed by the ground forces and approved by the Joint Staff. It is a very interesting move. They have decided that the ground forces should form certain battalions on a voluntary basis, comprising those who have received military training and former conscripts, something similar to the mobilization units that are at the disposal of the Guards Corps. However, they will comprise those who have done their military service and are familiar with the armed forces.

It has been decided that a large number of these battalions should be formed throughout the country, wherever we have military facilities. A 6-month course will be organized for them so that they can be used as independent units at the fronts. However, they will act on a voluntary basis and receive the salary approved for them. Of course, tonight the budget for their facilities and equipment and so on was studied and approved. I think this is a very interesting move by the armed forces and enables the armed forces to have access to a vast voluntary force which will greatly increase the forces at the disposal of the armed forces. The gentlemen themselves [as heard] will provide the people with further information.

Another issue we discussed and which took a lot of our time was the issue of the forces stationed in Syria. As you know, these days there is a great clamor in the imperialist media to the effect that Iranian forces were present and participated in the recent operation in Bal'labakk when the barracks of the Lebanese forces were surrounded. We inquired about this with the Guards Corps and they provided us with an official explanation. It was made clear that this claim is totally false and that our forces do not interfere at all in such activities. These forces were sent to fight against Israel, to take part in the battle against Israel. This battle has come practically to a standstill and the forces have remained there in anticipation of events. They are undergoing training courses there. Out investigations show that a movement has started there by the people and by the revolutionary Muslims. Israel, America and the Phalangists have become frightened. They don'twant to ascribe it to the people because they are frightened that this will boost the morale of the people. To break up these movements and to justify the suppression of the movement, they mention the name of our forces. We strongly deny it. We ask those who make such claims to produce evidence so that this lie may be clarified for the people of the world.

[Question] (?What other decisions were reached)?

[Answer] Another decision made at tonight's session of the Supreme Defense Council concerns the merging of the staff command training schools which various forces -- the air force, the navy and the ground forces -- use and which have acted separately in the past. At least 50 percent of the training courses that have elements in common should be amalgamated very soon and those specialized courses should be concentrated in one place as much as possible so that they can make use of the joint facilities. In this way, it will be possible to economize and the facilities will be concentrated in one place providing better training. This was approved and the forces were instructed to act as soon as possible.

[Question] How do you evaluate the position of the enemy forces after the recent victories of the forces of Islam? Could you also give us some details about the future plans of the fighters of Islam?

[Answer] One cannot reveal the plans as they are military secrets of which the people should be informed after they have been carried out. You should feel confident that at the moment we have the initiative from the Persian Gulf up to the most northern part of Iraq where we have a common border. In all places, we are positioned over the heights, except in one of two places where the Iraqis are in our territory. We studied the entire region tonight. We studied the areas where we can launch operations in the future and we made certain decisions. You should just wait and see. At the movement, the field is so open and the work is so easy that one hesitates about choosing the best spot as there are so many good spots. What has to some extent prevented us from staging further offensives in that we are very reluctant for our forces and the Iraqi forces to be killed. They are all Muslims whom we do not wish to be killed. We try to achieve the best results with the least number of clashes. However, if the need arises, when they are not prepared to sumbit to our demands, we will deliver them a blow so that they may come to their senses.

[Question] Could you give us some details about the Saddam regimes situation and of the position of the counterrevolutionaries?

[Answer] What I said about the Iraqi counteroffensives indicates their situation. On the whole, Iraq has no strength to move, maneuver or launch offensives. As a result of the pressure and intimidation that their forces feel, they only carry out very simple operations that are crushed with our serious defense. We see no danger on our borders, neither in the short term nor in the long term, except for some destructive, antihuman operations such as the launching of missiles against our cities or acts of sabotage against economic installation. Iraq still has the ability for such actions which cannot be called war. They are deceptive, antihuman acts aimed at boosting the morale of its forces and which encourage those who support Iraq to offer more money.

[Question] Ever since its formation, the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada based has been very active. Please tell us how effective the activities of this base have been in destroying the counterrevolutionaries and how effective it will be in the future.

[Answer] One of the reports presented tonight concerned this matter. Colonel Sayyad-Shirazi, who had come from that region, gave a lengthy report about the situation there. He was very satisfied with the cooperation between the fighting forces, the governors-general and government organizations, and also with the progress of the work which, in the views of these gentlemen, has broken the back of the counterrevolutionaries. Of course, terrorist and sabotage activities are not like battles that can be decisively resolved. It will take a long time. We will have disturbances later on as well. The people will experience disturbances that should be solved by pursuing the struggle against the counterrevolutionaries.

[Question] Please let us know what facilities the Islamic Republic of Iran will place at the disposal of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq for carrying out activities on the borders.

[Answer] We made some decisions tonight. One of the decisions was that the Guards Corps is entrusted with the task of making preparations to set up bases for them and train and organize them. However, we recommend and emphasized that they should not interfere in their affairs in any way. They should let them gather their forces by themselves and carry out their operations whenever they want. We should not interfere in the affairs of the Iraqi nation. The guards were given the task of making provisions for them and to provide them with lawful facilities.

KHAMENE'I ON BEHAVIOR OF IRANIANS IN LEBANON

LD241244 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that the Cabinet held a session this morning chaired by President Khamene'i.

After the session, in reply to a question on demonstrations staged by Iranian forces in Lebanon and the objection of the Lebanese Government regarding the matter, the president said: That is not so. The forces in Lebanon have neither staged any demonstrations nor acted contrary to Lebanese law. Our forces are there with the consent of the people and will return when necessary.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

No 1,132

LD241746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Communique No 1,132 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Two enemy offensives in the Moharram operation zone were foiled yesterday by the powerful Islamic combatants who enjoyed effective artillery support. The Saddam forces which suffered heavy losses and casualties were forced to retreat.

The enemy's first offensive was launched at 1200 on 23 November in Shahani region and was repulsed 2 and 1/2 hours later. The enemy's second offensive started at 1530 on 23 November in the same region and was foiled at 1800. During these operations, three enemy brigades and a number of commandos were deployed.

Enemy offensives in the regions between the Batiliyah and Abu Ghurayb and Kharaf border posts also were quickly repulsed by the forces of Islam.

In the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational zone, there were exchanges of fire and our combatant units fired on enemy positions, destroying one Iraqi tank, one artillery post and one mortar.

In the Qasr-e-Shirin region there also were exchanges of fire and the forces of Islam stationed at (Chugha Hammam) and (Khan Beygi) destroyed a number of enemy infantry bunkers and set on fire one Iraqi tank.

As a result of fire by the artillery of the army of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Iraqi forces' concentrations and positions in Panjwin, (Hargineh), Dar Ballut and Sayyid Sadiq regions, several enemy bunkers and vehicles were destroyed and the enemy suffered a number of dead or injured.

The combatants of the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, using heavy weapon fire on enemy personnel and fortifications on the other side of the Arvand Rud, destroyed one Iraqi mercenaries' assembly point and one mortar. During these operations, several Saddam soldiers were killed.

As a result of enemy shelling yesterday, 11 houses and shops were destroyed in Abadan and in a few other places fires broke out.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

No 1,133

LD251740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Communique No 1,133 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran congratulates all beloved and Muslim compatriots and particularly the members of the pride-creating mobilization group on the anniversary of the oppressed mobilization headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and begs the Almighty for honor and increasing glory for this revolutionary and Islamic institution.

The results of the battle and constant exchanges of fire carried out by the combatants of Islam on the fronts of the battle between truth and falsehood are brought to the attention of the beloved compatriots:

Sporadic exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued yesterday on most of the western fronts. On every front, the powerful combatants of Islam silenced the fire of the Saddamist forces and inflicted losses and casualties on them. They also set fire to part of the Saddamists' oil installations in Banmil and inflicted damage on them.

The combatants of Islam on the Paveh front stopped the trench digging and construction activities of the Saddamist mercenaries and killed a number of them.

On the Qasr-e Shirin front, the heroes of the gendarmerie inflicted considerable losses on the Iraqi forces based on the other side of the border.

Battles and exchanges of fire continued sporadically on the southern fronts. They were more intense on the Moharram operational fronts. At 1300 yesterday, the defeated Saddamist mercenaries tried to launch a counteroffensive against part of the Mohharam operational front. However, the powerful and victorious combatants of Islam, as always, stood firmly and strongly against them and after 5 hours of heavy fighting they finally pushed back the falling Saddamist mercenaries and inflicted considerable losses and casualties on them, preserving their superiority in the region.

During the series of exchanges of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the heroes of the navy and the combatants of the gendarmerie returned fire on the enemy trenches and positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud, destroying 5 observation posts, several trenches and foxholes and killing or wounding more than 15 of the Saddamist forces.

A number of the intruding aircraft of the Iraqi aggressor yesterday tried to violate the airspace of the some southern regions. However, they were forced to flee by the tactical measures of the fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

600 IRAQIS REPORTED KILLED IN 23 NOV CLASH

LD241210 Tehran IRNA in English 1050 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] Ahvaz, Nov. 24 (IRNA) -- In a 3-hour hand to hand fighting in the Marom theatre of the southwestern fronts yesterday afternoon Iraqi forces were compelled to withdraw from the scene leaving behind 600 dead and a yet undetermined number of captives.

Heavy weaponry losses were also inflicted upon the enemy during the operation.

Military experts believe that the fighting was one of the severest during the 26 months of the imposed war following an equally important offensive that took place last year on February 11 in Tang Chazzabeh, north of the border town of Bostan.

Iraqi forces in their desperate effort attacked the Iranian defensive position through Infantry Brigades Nos 504, 704, 701 and three special commando battalions with a support of seven other artillery battalions.

During the fighting Iraqi forces lost 90 percent of their Infantry Brigade No 504, 70 percent of the Brigade No 705, and 60 percent of Brigade No 701.

The latest reports from the scene indicate that the axis of Iraqi Sharhani outpost was filled with the dead bodies of Iraqis.

Military experts believe that Iranian combatants repulsed the counterattack in an outstanding way.

Meanwhile during another counterattack launched by the enemy troops in the Marom theatre Tuesday morning some 300 Iraqis were killed or wounded. Latest report indicate that the Islamic combatants holding the upper hand, checked all enemy movements in the region.

IRNA REPORTS ON RECENT BATTLEFRONT SUCCESSES

LD251758 Tehran IRNA in English 0953 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Text] Bakhtaran, Nov. 24, IRNA -- Activities of the Iraqi forces were checked by the accurate fire of the Islamic combatants which also smashed one enemy's tank, one artillery position, one mortar launcher and one watch post in the western front over the preceding 24 hours.

In these battlefronts, some enemy troops were killed or wounded as the Iraqi strongholds and equipment came under the Iranian artillery fire during this same time.

24 November Activity

LD251227 Tehran IRNA in English 0955 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Text] Ahvaz, Nov. 24, IRNA -- The Iraqi criminals continued shelling of Abadan over the past 24 hours, wounding one civilian and destroying eight houses and shops as well as setting afire two other houses.

Also, some aggressor Iraqi planes violated Abadan's air space but were immediately forced out of Iranian territory by the air defence fire of the Islamic forces during this same time.

Meanwhile, 17 enemy troops were killed or wounded when the Iranians destroyed 14 Iraqi bunkers and five observation posts beyond the Arvand River during the preceding 24 hours.

Also, artillery fire exchanges persisted in the southern fronts of Kushk, (Shalamchen), east of Basra and on the Arvand River banks while the Iranian defenders, holding the upper hand checked all enemy's movements on the Al-Faw-Basra axis in the aforementioned time.

VELAYATI STRESSES TIES WITH THIRD WORLD

LD251954 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov 25, IRNA -- Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati stressed today that the Islamic Republic would give priority to establishing ties with the Third World countries since cooperation among these states could be effective in curtailing the domination of superpowers.

Velayati, meeting with the new Thai ambassador to Iran, Phi Ibulyn Maolanon, said that the Islamic Republic sought to establish relations with all countries in the world except for those which had taken a hostile attitude.

A new Iranian charge d'affaires had been recently dispatched to Thailand, the foreign minister said, hoping that efforts of representatives of the two countries would be fruitful in the expansion of ties based on respect for territorial integrity of each other and for mutual rights.

OIL OFFICIALS, INDIAN DELEGATION HOLD TALKS

LD232016 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] The Indian under secretary in the Petroleum Ministry, leading a 10-man delegation of economic officials who have come to Iran to hold talks regarding the exchange of oil products between Iran and India, today met with the under secretary in charge of trade and international affairs at the Ministry of Petroleum of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Central News Unit reports that at this meeting, India's shares in the nationalized Iminco Oil Company were discussed and decisions were made to resolve the problems in that respect.

In today's talks, the issue of Iran's investments in the refinery and fertilizer complex in Madras also was reviewed. The Iranian Petroleum Ministry under secretary at the end of this meeting told our correspondent: India is an old buyer of Iran's oil and has bought 80,000 barrels of oil per day during the past year. The delegation, which arrived in Tehran last night, will hold talks with Iranian officials on technical cooperation in oil and petrochemical industries and other relations between the two countries during its week-long stay in Tehran.

Agreement on Crude Renewed

LD252354 Tehran IRNA in English 1945 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 25 IRNA -- Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi on Thursday said India is a permanent customer of the Iranian crude and added that Iran is also firm in its commitments to that country.

Gharazi was talking to the press following a contract signed by visiting Indian deputy oil minister, Loveraj Kumar, for the renewal of an agreement signed by the two countries earlier for the purchase of the Iranian crude.

Gharazi said that Irano-Indian ties were continuing prior to the culmination of the Islamic revolution in various fields including the discovery and exploration of oil in Iran and that the Madras oil refinery and fertiliser plant in India were also financed by Iran.

HUNGARIAN FINANCE MINISTER ARRIVES 20 NOVEMBER

GF201640 Tehran IRNA in English 1541 GMT 20 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov 20, IRNA -- Hungarian finance minister, Istavan Hetenyi, arrived here this morning heading an economic delegation from his country.

Upon his arrival he told IRNA that he had come to the Islamic Republic with widespread powers from his government in order to cooperate with Iran in the reconstruction of war stricken areas, transportation, agriculture, health matters and in the technical field in addition to expanding trade between the two countries.

Hetenyi said that his 16-man delegation consisted [of] officials from various ministerial and industrial departments aimed at holding cordial talks with their Iranian counterparts.

He said that trade between the Islamic Republic and Hungary will reach about 400 million dollars by the end of 1982, which was a 60 percent increase compared to last year.

Iran exports oil, raw materials, and dried fruits to Hungary while it imports various metals, chemical products, chemical fertilisers, machinery for the Iranian Energy Ministry, and medical products. Also Hungary has close cooperation with the Energy Ministry for the construction of a power plant near Esfahan.

Also Iranian deputy agriculture minister, 'Abas 'Ali Zare'i, said that the talks would be primarily focused on cooperations in the field of agriculture and the purchase of chemical products. Zare'i expressed hope that the talks would be in the benefit of both countries.

Meeting With Counterpart

LD211252 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Nov 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Hungarian finance minister, who is heading an economic delegation on a visit to Tehran, has ontinued his talks with our country's officials by meeting with Minister of Economy and Finance Hoseyn Namazi. They discussed bilateral economic relations.

During the meeting, which the Hungarian ambassador to Tehran also attended, the Hungarian finance minister referred to the possibility of expanding mutual trade by 30 percent. He said: The expansion of mutual trade entails the expansion of Hungary's exports to Iran and vice versa. During the meeting, the head of the Hungarian delegation also asked for increased exports of Iranian oil to Hungary and continued trade on a barter basis under the present terms.

The Iranian minister of economy and finance declared: (?In relations between) the two countries, the important issue is acceptance of common principles such as respect and mutual interests.

Agriculture Cooperation

GF211639 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 21 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov 21, IRNA -- Mohammad Salamati, minister of agriculture and rural development, explained the economic policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran based on agricultural activities today during a meeting with the Hungarian finance minister, Istvan Hetenyi.

Hetenyi also expressed the preparedness of his country to provide Iran with the necessary know-how in the fields of livestock breeding, agriculture, and their related industries. He also presented a number of proposals concerning the export of technology and expertise in the various agricultural related areas.

The two officials also discussed the progess being made in the work of the joint Irano-Hungarian committees in connection with trade, energy, agriculture, and livestock breeding.

The Hungarian minister arrived here yesterday heading a 16-man economic delegation. Upon his arrival, Hetenyi said that he had full power from his government for the expansion of trade and other economic relations between the two countries.

Meetings With Officials

LD222145 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Text] The Hungarian finance minister this afternoon conferred with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi.

According to the Central News Unit, the meeting also was attended by Minister of Agriculture Salamati; the economic director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and the ambassador to Hungary of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Relations between the two countries were discussed at this meeting.

According to the report of the Central News Unit, the Hungarian finance minister also conferred this afternoon with Foreign Affairs Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati. At this meeting, the Hungarian finance minister said: We desire to expand daily and to strengthen our relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Dr Velayati replied: We also are willing to expand the relations between the two countries. After the Islamic revolution, our commercial exchanges with Hungary have increased considerably. This demonstrates the willingness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to expand its relations with your country. Dr Velayati said: After the Islamic revolution, we have tried to divert our attention from the superpowers toward Third World countries and other countries willing to have a balance relationship while respecting our sovereignty, and those countries that desire mutual rights with the Islamic Republic. However, this expansion of relations should be based on appropriate, popular bases. In some Hungarian newspapers, we sometimes see reports about Iran that are contrary to the truth. Responsible officials in Hungary should give necessary reminders to the appropriate people. God willing, the present obstacles will be removed.

23 November Talks

LD232134 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] The Hungarian finance minister today met with our country's Commerce Minister 'Asgar-Owladi. According to the Central News Unit, during this meeting, our country's commerce minister spoke about foreign trade planning and the political and economic stability of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The commerce minister also expressed Iran's desire to expand trade relations with other countries.

The Hungarian finance minister during this meeting said: Our aim in coming to your country is to expand trade and commercial relations, to study the possibility of taking part in your country's reconstruction program and to expand relations between the two countries.

He added: Compared with the previous year, the volume of trade between the two countries has increased 60 percent and it is possible to forecast that this year it will reach $400 million.

The Hungarian finance minister invited our country's commerce minister to visit Hungary.

24 November Departure

LD241230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the Hungarian economic delegation led by Finance Minister Dr Istvan Hetenyi, left Tehran this morning for Budapest after signing an economic agreement with our country's Agriculture and Rural Development Minister Hohammad Salamati.

During its 4-day visit to Tehran, it had a series of meetings with the responsible officials and signed a number of agreements in various industrial, technical, medical, commercial and agricultural fields.

According to this report, the agreement signed this morning by the Hungarian minister of finance and our country's minister of agriculture and rural development covers various agricultural fields, including agricultural research work and training, fertilizers, chemicals, small agricultural machinery and agricultural equipment.

In today's meeting, the Iranian minister of agriculture and rural development addressed the Hungarian economic delegation: We hope these meetings will help expand and strengthen mutual relations and the two countries will be able to achieve positive results in various economic fields. The Hungarian finance minister thanked the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran for their warm welcome: During our short stay in Iran, we had meetings with the prime minister and other ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran. These meetings were very useful and fruitful for both countries. In conclusion, he invited our country's agriculture minister to visit Hungary.

KHOMEYNI URGES KURDISH-PERSIAN UNITY UNDER ISLAM

LD241202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni speech to armed forces, gendarmerie and Guards Corps personnel and their families, who are stationed in Kordestan, in Hoseyniyeh Jamaran on 24 November -- recorded -- duration 6 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I was not planning to speak today. However, I will say a few brief words and will pray for you. I believe words are inadequate to praise you beloved young people and all organizations serving on this path, including the armed forces, the Guards Corps, the committees, the mobilization units and all others.

I want to say a word to you and to the people of Kordestan. You, the people of Kordestan and others in those regions, should not be deceived by the minigroups. They have raised an issue contrary to the blessed Koran and to Islam. It is a racist issue. They say the Kurds, the Lors and the Persians should be separate from each other and that each of them should be independent. Islam has come to get rid of this. Islam has come to destroy these barriers.

All of you, all of us and and all Muslims should be united and should be partners under the banner of there is no god but Allah and under the banner of monotheism. We should try to advance Islam. I hope you will be able to implement Islam in all Islamic countries and to implement Islamic teachings in all parts of the world. Thank God, you are a model for all other countries. You can be certain that the eyes of all Muslim in other countries and all the oppressed people in other countries are turned toward you, and you are the objects of our prayers.

O God, we beseech you for the sake of all saints to safeguard our loved ones, to bring victory upon the friends of God and the friends of the lord of the age. May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

KHAMENE'I PRAISES ROLE OF FRIDAY IMAMS

GF240910 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] According to a report from the Central News Unit, the Friday imam of Mashhad along with the other Friday imams in Khorasan Province yesterday afternoon met with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic and member of the country's body of Friday imams.

The president, during his talk with the Friday imams, described the (?eminent) presence of the Friday imams in the field as equal to the presence of the people in the field. And with reference to various plots of the enemies of the Islamic revolution aimed at ousting the clergymen from the field, he said: Those who have been making the greatest efforts to achieve this objective have been unsuccessful.

The president in another part of his talk in reference to the political importance of the Friday prayers said the Friday prayer is an institution that reaches the individual citizen. This institution in view to the importance of those leading it has very important and heavy responsibilities.

The president added that the enemy to oust these people from the field uses various political tactics and approaches from various directions. To neutralize these plots, the people should be educated politically. To achieve this, the Friday imams should not only carry out their religious functions, but should also impact political education; this is the responsibility of all of us.

Khamene'i further said that the Friday prayer should be a mass prayer and all social and class differences should be resolved at the Friday prayer. The president, while referring to the upcoming elections for the Council of Experts, said the enemy's plots against this council consist of spreading rumors that the Council of Experts would work against the leadership. He said the imam addressed this when he had said that this is not only not opposed to the leadership but will, in fact, strengthen it. The president said the Council of Experts is a very important institution which has been provided for in the Constitution and is a powerful organ that will go down in our history as a source of reverence and satisfaction for our peace.

NVOI WARNS AGAINST 'CREATORS OF MALCONTENT'

TA192017 [Editorial Report] Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 19 November in a commentary entitled: "Expel the Creators of Malcontents -- These Foes of the Revolution," says: The creation of discontent is one of the basic methods of the wide spectrum of the opponents and foes of the revolution to strike at the foundations of the revolution.

The creators of malcontent, by sowing the seed of discontent among our homeland's million-strong masses, separate these masses from the Islamic leadership.

As officials of our homeland themselves have warned, the creation of malcontent is carried out in different ways. Up to now, the creators of malcontent have been engaged in their task with complete freedom and day by day their number is increasing. For example, let's look at the situation of our homeland's workers. Since the first day the labor minister assumed his post and until this very day, one can dare say that the amount of discontent among the workers has increased considerably, and this is something natural. The labor minister and others of the same mind have risen with all their might in defense of the major captialists and employers and, with the utmost crudeness, violate the rights of the workers. Our homeland's workers demand the drafting and approval of a labor law with the participation of their true representatives.

At a recent meeting with the Cabinet, Imam Khomeyni warned that the masses must not be disillusioned with the government. Unfortunately, it should be said that sufficient attention is not being paid to this warning by the imam and the creation of discontent among the million-strong masses is proceeding with utmost intensity. One must struggle against this dangerous development, and the creators of malcontent -- in every guise and garb -- must be identified and dismissed.

PURGING OF 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' NOTED

GF260602 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Summary from poor reception] Islamic fighters in a joint operation under the codename Imam Jafar Saddeq on 24 November in (Jabehrud) inflicted fatal blows on counterrevolutionary elements. Four villages in the Marivan region were purged of counterrevolutionaries.

RADIO IRAN CITES ARRESTS, EXECUTIONS OF BAHA'IS

GF260736 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Text] Following the execution of five Baha'is in Iran who refused to change their religion, the religious committee of Baha'is in England disclosed the names of two Baha'is who were executed. One was named Dr Ziaudin Attari and the other one was Habibullah (Odi). According to the communique of the Central Committee of Baha'is in England, Dr Ziaudin Attari was sent before the firing squad last Sunday and Habibullah (Odi) was hung last week. The communique also adds that three more Baha'is were sentenced to death in an Islamic court in the southern part of Shiraz on charges of being Baha'is. According to this communique, 40 Baha'is have been arrested in Shiraz during the past month.